

World Headquarters

Kim Muratore, Case Developer (SFD-7-5) US EPA, Region 9 75 Hawthorne St. San Francisco, CA 94105 January 10, 2019

RE: 1550 E. Kimberly Ave. Fullerton, CA

Dear Ms. Muratore:

We are in receipt of your CERCLA Section 104(e) Information Request Letter regarding the Orange County North Basin Study Area, Orange County, California.

Cooper Standard Automotive Inc. ("Cooper Standard") is not aware of a historical site located at 1550 East Kimberly Avenue, Fullerton, CA, either associated with the present-day company, or predecessor companies Cooper Tire and Rubber or Standard Products Company. We have conducted an internal search of company records and have also contacted Cooper Tire and Rubber.

The automotive business of Cooper Tire and Rubber was acquired by Cooper Standard Holdings Inc. in 2004 and previously Cooper Tire and Rubber had acquired Standard Products Company in 1999. These predecessor companies have no records of a site operated at this address.

A Google search indicates that a battery manufacturing site was operated by Johnson Controls at 1550 E. Kimberly Ave. from the mid-1960's through 2006. This company has no association with Cooper Standard.

If you have information that indicates otherwise we would be happy to consider it. Kindly address any further correspondence to: Tom Defouw, Manager Environment, Cooper Standard Automotive, Inc., 39550 Orchard Hill Place, Novi, MI 48375.

Sincerely

Richard Hanlon

Vice President, Health, Safety & Environment Cooper Standard Automotive, Inc. 39550 Orchard Hill Place Novi, MI 48375

CC: Tom Defouw - Novi Jerry Preston – Novi Denise Balog – Novi Jeff Edwards - Novi

## **BUSINESS**

## Johnson Controls to close Fullerton factory

By **BARBARA GIASONE** | Orange County Register October 11, 2005 at 3:00 am

**O COMMENTS** 

*Johnson Controls*, the world's leading supplier of automotive batteries, will close its Fullerton factory in mid-2006, spokeswoman Monica Levy said.

The plant, at 1550 E. Kimberly Ave., employs 114.

Levy said corporate officials are talking with economic-development officials in Yuma, Ariz., where Johnson Controls Battery Group Inc. has plans for building a factory.

The Yuma City Council has approved a deal offering more than \$250,000 in economic incentives for the move, according to a report Friday in the Yuma Sun newspaper. Under the agreement, the Wisconsin-based company would spend \$20 million to build a 24,000-square-foot plant.

Under the contract, the new plant would hire 120 full-time employees to fill and charge car batteries made in Mexico, according to the article.

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Levy said no definite site decisions have been made.

"We're trying to keep costs in line with our competitors, and doing business in California is expensive," Levy said from her Milwaukee office. "Batteries are heavy. Freight costs are high. It's simply too expensive to do business there."

Levy said Johnson Controls has 20 battery manufacturing plants worldwide, including eight in the United States.

In Fullerton, Johnson warehouseman Bill McCormick, 44, said he was devastated by the decision.

"There are a lot of middle-aged men here who started right out of high school," he said.

The company has been active in the Fullerton business community. Its officials were on the Fullerton Chamber of Commerce board from 1998 to 2001, participating in a variety of local activities.

The plant was run by Globe-Union Battery until Johnson bought Globe-Union in 1978.

"We're trying to keep costs in line with our competitors, and doing business in California is expensive. Batteries are heavy. Freight costs are high. It's simply too expensive to do business there."

Monica Levy Johnson Controls

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